

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 13, 2006. Claims 1, 9, 10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 38, 39, 37, 38, 43, 44, 47, 48, 51, 52, 55, 56, 59, 60, 63 and 64 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 15 and 29 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 45, 46, 53, 54, 61 and 62 were objected to for informalities. These claims having been canceled herein. Accordingly, withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 9, 10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 28, 43, 44, 46, 49 to 52, 54, 57 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,481,353 (Hicks). Claims 29, 37, 38, 45, 47, 48, 53, 55, 56 and 59 to 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hicks in view of U.S. Application Publication No. 2003/0103237 (Han). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns a host computer having a print driver which includes a feature of generating print job data for plural output formats automatically. In one aspect of the invention, a single print job is generated for a plurality of different output formats by concatenating a first group of commands and first print data with a second group of commands and second print data.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus for generating print data to be printed by a printer. The apparatus includes a setting unit adapted to set a print property specifying a manner in which the print data is to be printed via a printer driver; a special-printing-mode specification unit adapted to specify a special printing mode; a print property information

generator adapted to generate print property information; and a job generator adapted to generate a print job interpretable by a printer, the print job including the print data and the print property information. When the special printing mode is not selected, the print property information generator generates, in accordance with the print property set by the setting unit, first print property information specifying a manner in which printing is performed on a first recording sheet. When the special printing mode is selected, the print property information generator automatically generates, in addition to the first print property information, second print property information specifying a manner in which printing is performed on a second recording sheet, the second print property information being generated in accordance with a print property different from the print property set by the setting unit. The print property information in the print job generated by the job generator is further defined as the information regarding an output format property. When the special printing mode is selected, the job generator generates a single print job including a first group of commands indicating an output format property based on the first print property information and first print data, and a second group of commands indicating an output format property based on the second print property information and second print data.

In contrast, Hicks discloses a printer equipped with a GUI. Using the GUI, it is possible to set detailed print settings such as “Transparencies”, “Dividers”, “Master Set”, “Handout Set(s)” for a presentation. (See Fig. 3 of Hicks.) However, Hicks neither discloses nor suggests generating a single print job including a first group of commands indicating an output format property based on first print property information and first print

data, and a second group of commands indicating an output format property based on second print property information and second print data.

Furthermore, Han discloses that in order to prepare copies of transparency films for OHP and handout copies for the presentation, it was once necessary to execute an output for several times. Han describes a solution of setting the setup for transparency films for the presentation and the setup for handout copies in advance and printing out the copies of transparency films for the presentation and the handout copies within one mode. (See Han, paragraph 0013, Fig. 5A and Fig. 5B). That is, Han discloses printing out transparency films for the presentation and handout copies within one mode but is silent as to the format type of the generated printing job. Therefore, it cannot be said that Han discloses or suggests generating a single print job including a first group of commands indicating an output format property based on first print property information and first print data, and a second group of commands indicating an output format property based on second print property information and second print data.

Therefore, neither Hicks nor Han, neither alone nor in combination, disclose or suggest generating a single print job including a first group of commands indicating an output format property based on first print property information and first print data, and a second group of commands indicating an output format property based on second print property information and second print data. In addition, the combination of Hicks and Han neither discloses nor suggests that, when the special printing mode is selected, that a job generator automatically generates the single print job including the first group of commands and the second group of commands.

In light of the deficiencies of Hicks and Han as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 15 and 29 are directed to a method and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 15 and 29 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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